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tions  $Mf_1$ ,  $Mf_2$ : and this arises from the mixture of real and imaginary quantities in them.

"8. The solution just mentioned, viz.,  $F_1 + F_2$ , might be written in the form

$$\{1+D_1^{-2}(D_2^2+D_3^2)\}^{-1}(f_1+xf_2).$$

This transformation suggests an elementary process, by means of which the solution of Laplace's function, in the form of a series arranged according to ascending powers of x, may be obtained without recourse to imaginaries. Let the equation,

$$(D_1^2 + D_2^2 + D_2^3) V = 0$$

be integrated twice with respect to x;  $\phi_2$  and  $\phi_1$ , two arbitrary functions of y and z, being successively introduced in the integration; it will then assume the form

$$\{1+D_1^{-2}(D_2^2+D_3^2)\}\ V=x\phi_2+\phi_1.$$

Hence we shall have,

$$V = \{1 + D_1^{-2} (D_2^2 + D_3^2)\}^{-1} (x\phi_2 + \phi_1).$$

The development of the operations here indicated will actually produce a result equivalent to Lagrange's. So long ago as in February, 1848, I had suggested this mode of treating differential equations; but I had then little notion of the possibility of applying it with any success in the case of an equation so intractable as that of Laplace's coefficients."

Dr. Todd presented a rubbing made by him from an inscribed tombstone in the north transept of the church of Galway. It bears the following inscription:—

The stone is elaborately ornamented, and bears on it also a representation of an adze and square, or rule, the emblems of the trade of coopers, to which the brothers O'Tiernagh belonged. Dr. Todd drew attention to the form of the wife's name, "Katerina ni-Gonow," the *ni* being the correct form of the Irish patronymic for a female, corresponding to the O' for a male.

Under the word OTIERNAGH in the inscription are the words "7.TEIG" in a smaller character, but of the same date, i.e. "and" or "et Teig," alluding to the younger brother Teig og, who was interred in the same tomb.

Dr. Ball read extracts from a letter from Professor Harvey, dated Melbourne, 10th January last, in which he stated that he had just packed up his Victoria collection of Algæ, and had examined and named all the new species; and that, including the West Australian collection, his list shows 556 species. He enclosed for the "Annals of Natural History" a description of some of his new genera: as Bellotia, named in honour of Lieut. Bellot, who perished in search of Sir John Franklin; Apjohnia, called in remembrance of Dr. and Mrs. Apjohn; &c., &c. A specimen of the Apjohnia was exhibited. Dr. Harvey was about to sail for Van Dieman's Land, and expected to proceed to Sydney in May.

Dr. John Barker exhibited some bracteate coins, said to have been found in a place called the Giant's Grave, within six miles of Belfast.